UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN RE:)	
Forrester, Michelle Constantine)	Case No. 16-04402
)	Chapter: 13
)	
)	NOTICE OF MOTION/
Debtor.)	APPLICATION AND
)	OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

TAKE NOTICE that <u>Michelle Constantine Forrester</u> filed a <u>MOTION FOR MORATORIUM OF PAYMENTS UNDER CHAPTER 13 PLAN.</u>

TO: THE FOLLOWING CREDITORS: All Creditors.

A copy of the motion and proposed order (Motion/Application) accompanies this notice.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that any response, return and/or objection to the motion, should be filed with the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court no later than twenty one (21) days from service of motion and a copy of the simultaneously served on all parties in interest.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that no hearing will be held on this motion or application unless a response, return and/or objection is timely filed and served, in which case, the Court will conduct a hearing on <u>June 21, 2017 at 9:00a.m.</u>, at <u>United States Bankruptcy Court</u>, <u>145 King St.</u>, <u>Room 225</u>, <u>Charleston</u>, <u>SC 29401</u>. No further notice of this hearing will be given.

Date this 5th day of May, 2017

/s/ Heather S. Bailey
Heather S. Bailey
Moss & Associates, Attorneys, P.A.
D.C. ID# 11592
2170 Ashley Phosphate Rd., Ste. 405
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Address of Court: United States Bankruptcy Court 145 King Street, Room 225 Charleston, SC 29401

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN RE:

Forrester, Michelle Constantine

C/A No. 16-04402

Chapter: 13

Debtor.

MOTION FOR MORATORIUM UNDER CHAPTER 13 PLAN

COMES NOW, Michelle Constantine Forrester ("Debtor"), by and through her undersigned counsel, and file this Motion for Moratorium of Payments under Chapter 13 Plan ("Moratorium Motion"), which requests a moratorium of plan payments for a period of three months, to include April, May and June 2017. The Debtor proposes to resume her regular monthly payment of \$629.00 in July 2017. Debtor will be responsible for making sure that the full amount is paid, as debtor will resume payments directly to the Chapter 13 trustee.

Debtor filed for Chapter 13 relief under the Bankruptcy Code on August 30, 2016. Debtor's Chapter 13 Plan ("Plan") has not yet been confirmed. Debtor's Plan requires for monthly payments of \$590.00 per month for three (3) months, for monthly payments of \$525.00 per month for three (3) months, and for monthly payments of \$629.00 per month for fifty-one (51) months.

A Motion for Moratorium is judged as a motion to modify the confirmed Chapter 13 plan pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1329. See In re Wilson, C/A No. 96-75601-W, slip op. at 2 (Bankr. D.S.C. May 20, 1997). The Court issued In re Wilson to provide the Chapter 13 Bar with guidance concerning the requirements of a Motion for Moratorium of Payments under a

Further references to the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. § 101 *et. seq.*, shall be by section number only.

Chapter 13 Plan. <u>In re Wilson</u>, slip op. at 1. The party moving to modify a confirmed Chapter 13 plan has the burden of showing an unanticipated, substantial change in circumstances warrants modification of the plan. <u>In re Wilson</u>, slip op. at 4. Such a substantial change in circumstances may be a change in the debtor's financial condition after confirmation. <u>In re Wilson</u>, slip op. at 3-4 (quoting <u>Arnold v. Weast (In re Arnold)</u>, 869 F.2d 240, 241 (4thCir. 1989)). In order to satisfy the burden required for a motion to modify a confirmed Chapter 13 plan to defer payments for a period of time, a debtor must demonstrate a substantial change in circumstances and demonstrate that the plan satisfies § 1322(b), § 1322(c), § 1325(a), and § 1329(c). <u>Id.</u> at 4. In <u>In re Wilson</u>, the Court explained the following facts that a debtor must allege in order to meet this burden:

the number of months for which the debtor proposes to defer payments to the trustee; a good faith reason why modification of the plan is necessary; an explanation as to why the needed deferral of payments does not render the plan unfeasible; an explanation as to how the debtor will be able to resume the payments to the trustee at the end of the period during which payments are deferred; a statement of the number of payments which have come due to the trustee under the plan as of the filing of the motion; and a statement of the total number of months the confirmed plan is to run and whether the granting of the modification will cause the plan to exceed the plan term limit set forth in § 1329(c).

In re Wilson, slip op. at 5.

Debtor proposes to defer her Plan payments for a period of three months. Debtor proposes this plan modification in good faith as she experienced a temporary change in her monthly income subsequent to her Plan's filing. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Debtor is no longer employed by Cumulus Media. Debtor turned to real estate, which fluctuates in income until securely established. Debtor had her first closing in March 2017, and has provided a profit and loss for the next 6 months to show anticipated income. Debtor is adamant on successfully completing her Chapter 13 bankruptcy case which is dependent on Debtor's

confirmation. In addition to this Moratorium, Debtor proposes to pay her delinquent amount of \$114.00 the week of May 08, 2017. Furthermore, Debtor will amend schedules I and J to reflect her new employer. Debtor is asking for time to regroup her financial situation so that she may become current on her trustee payments. Debtor apologizes deeply for any inconvenience this may have caused. As such, not granting a moratorium based on the Debtor's hardship would be detrimental for the Debtor to have a successful reorganization. Based on the foregoing, the Debtor moves for a three-month moratorium on payments due under her Chapter 13 plan.

Debtor's Plan, which includes the three month moratorium, will not exceed the plan term limit set forth in § 1329(c), as "the five year limitation period imposed by § 1329(c) does not commence on the date that the first payment is due but rather on the date that the first payment after confirmation is due." In re Stroud, C/A No. 07-04502-jw, slip op. at 2 (Bankr. D.S.C. March 5, 2008)(citations omitted). Debtor has made six (6) payments prior to this time. Thus, tacking on three monthly payments to the end of Debtor's Plan will not result in the Plan exceeding the plan term limit of § 1329(c).

WHEREFORE, Debtor moves this Court for an Order granting Debtor's Moratorium Motion or for whatever relief the Court deems just and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted.

Moss & Associates Attorneys, P.A.

By: /s/ Heather S. Bailey
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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

In Re: Forrester, Michelle Constantine) Case No. <u>16-0440</u>	2
))) Chapter: <u>13</u>	
Debtor.))	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY CERTIFIES THAT HE/SHE PROPERLY SERVED THE FOREGOING MOTION FOR MORATORIUM TO THE FOLLOWING CREDITORS VIA REGULAR MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID:

James M. Wyman, Chapter 13 Trustee (CM/ECF) See Attached List

Date: May 5, 2017

/s/ Inna Kirpachova
Bankruptcy Paralegal
Moss & Associates Attorneys, P.A.
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Case 16-04402-jw
District of South Carolina
Charleston
Fri May 5 11:45:47 EDT 2017

Document Page 6 of 7 J. Bratton Davis United States Bankruptcy Courthouse 1100 Laurel Street Columbia, SC 29201-2423

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US Trustee's Office Strom Thurmond Federal Building 1835 Assembly Street Suite 953 Columbia, SC 29201-2448

The preferred mailing address (p) above has been substituted for the following entity/entities as so specified by said entity/entities in a Notice of Address filed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 342(f) and Fed.R.Bank.P. 2002 (g)(4).

Republic Finance LLC 1140 Roma Ave Hammond, LA 70403 TITLEMAX 1738 SAVANNAH HWY Charleston SC 29407 (d)TitleMax of South Carolina, Inc. d/b/a Tit 15 Bull Street, Suite 200 Savannah, GA 31401

The following recipients may be/have been bypassed for notice due to an undeliverable (u) or duplicate (d) address.

(u) U.S. Bank Trust, N.A.

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Bypassed recipients 1
Total 37